

Outsourcing Indiana

Due to the outsourcing of government services by the Daniels administration, billions of Hoosier tax dollars have been sent out-of-state

**FOR
SALE**

- 75-year lease of the Indiana Toll Road to an Australian-Spanish consortium which will send **all Toll Road profits over the next 75 years overseas.**
- **\$1.8 million** to a Louisville, Kentucky-based firm for Hoosier Lottery advertising.
- **\$264 million** to Missouri Correctional Medical Services for prison health care services in Indiana.
- **\$53 million** to Florida-based Geo Group to operate the New Castle Prison.
- **\$1.3 million** contract to North American Salt Co., based in Kansas, after criticizing former administration for buying road salt from Illinois and Michigan.
- **\$258 million** to ARAMARK, a Pennsylvania-based firm, for food services at all Indiana prisons.
- Currently a **\$1 billion contract** is up-for-grabs to administer and operate programs for seniors, children and needy families including food stamps, Medicaid and more.

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Representative Duane Cheney

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Representative Duane Cheney

Working for You



Helping Hoosier Families



Fighting for honest gas prices.



2006 Session Report

Working for You

My work as your State Representative includes addressing the needs of our District. I have successfully secured grants supporting constituent access to health care through North Shore Health Centers and Hilltop Neighborhood House.

I am currently working with Senator Richard Lugar to obtain additional funding for Valparaiso University lab facilities in the College of Engineering. As a partner in the Center for computational Nanoscience with the University of Notre Dame, Purdue University, Ball State University and Ohio University, Valparaiso is making significant contributions in the field of nanotechnology.

Furthermore, I am assisting with seeking funding for the Meteorology program at Valparaiso University and scholarship funding opportunities for women and minorities in the College of Engineering.

Cheney fights for honest gas pricing

As gas prices continue to rise in Indiana and across the country, this past session I introduced legislation to attempt to ensure honest gas pricing.

I authored House Bill 1101 which would have made it a deceptive act for a gasoline dealer to knowingly sell gasoline at a metered pump for a price that



is higher than the price posted on a sign used by the dealer. Had this bill gone into law, starting in July of this year the Attorney General would have been able to bring action to enjoin a deceptive act. Civil penalties could have been assessed for deceptive acts ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per violation, depending upon the situation of the particular case.

Unfortunately this measure did not come out of committee. However, I will continue to work for honest gas pricing in the future.

Our Schools, Our Future

Education remains one of the most important topics we address in the Indiana General Assembly. The 2006 Session saw several improvements. New



legislation reinstates Indiana's Mentor Program, which provides professional support to veteran teachers who help in enhancing the skills of beginning teachers. Another bill offers high school dropouts the chance to earn their diplomas through the Fast Track program.

What we didn't pass was quite significant. We stopped efforts to create school vouchers, which would drain funding from public schools and ultimately bring State interference in private school programs. I successfully fought efforts to remove long-standing legislative protections to many public school programs such as vocational education, early childhood intervention, summer school and substance abuse prevention mandates. Under my questioning the House author was forced to withdraw his bill. My refusal to sign the conference committee report proved fatal to the Senate companion bill which would have weakened many important education programs.

A summary of new legislation

SCHOOL SAFETY



With a bill that I co-authored, we have attempted to ensure the safety of schoolchildren and to protect school employees by making possession of a knife on school property or a school bus a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by up to a 180-day prison term or a fine of \$1,000.

HOME IMPROVEMENT FRAUD



The circumstances under which home improvement fraud can now be prosecuted have been expanded. The bill increases the penalties for home improvement fraud if the improvements were made on the property of a senior citizen or if more than two clauses of home improvement laws were violated.

FUNERAL PROTESTS

New legislation increases the penalty for disorderly conduct occurring near the location of a funeral, memorial service, or viewing. The bill is largely in response to a group from Kansas that has chosen to stage protests at the funerals of Hoosier soldiers killed in action, using the occasion to make a political statement.



DRUG ABUSE AND CHILDREN

At least two pieces of legislation this session attempt to regulate controlled substances abuse through study and harsher penalties for crimes related to drug abuse. One increases the penalties for neglect of a child if the neglect is a result of drug abuse or production, while another authorizes the study of the effects of substance abuse or alcohol use during pregnancy.

Session Highlights

